

IN THE CLAIMS

The following list of claims includes the status of every claim in the application, and replaces all prior claim lists.

1 – 16. (Cancelled).

17. (new) A device for cutting and sealing a film web, the film web having at least two layers, the device comprising:

a cylindrical roller that rotates in a first circumferential direction about an axis, the roller having a surface, and further having a circumferential opening in the surface;

an arcuate sealing/cutting element within the roller opening and projecting above the roller surface, whereby the sealing/cutting element contacts a film web being carried by the roller, wherein the sealing/cutting element is heated, wherein the sealing/cutting element lies in a plane perpendicular to the roller axis and remains fixed in position when the roller rotates, wherein the sealing/cutting element projects radially beyond the surface of the roller, and wherein the sealing/cutting element has at least a first radius that projects a first distance beyond the roller surface for a first portion of the element, and at least a second radius, greater than the first radius, that projects a second distance beyond the roller surface for a second portion of the element.

18. (new) The device for cutting and sealing a film web in accordance with Claim 17, wherein the roller and sealing/cutting element are adjustable in the axial direction along the roller axis.
19. (new) The device for cutting and sealing a film web in accordance with Claim 17, wherein the fixed position of the sealing/cutting element can be adjusted circumferentially with respect to the roller axis.
20. (new) The device for cutting and sealing a film web in accordance with Claim 17, wherein the roller comprises at least two parts separated by the opening, wherein the separate roller parts are free to rotate independently about the roller axis.
21. (new) The device for cutting and sealing a film web in accordance with Claim 17, wherein the first radius extends along a first arc of the cutting/sealing element to define a first angle, and wherein the second radius extends along a second arc of the cutting sealing device to define a second angle.
22. (new) The device for cutting and sealing a film web in accordance with Claim 21, wherein the sealing/cutting element has exactly two different radii that project two different distances beyond the roller surface.

23. (new) The device for cutting and sealing a film web in accordance with Claim 22, wherein the sealing/cutting device has an edge that defines a radial step between the first and second arcs.

24. (new) The device for cutting and sealing a film web in accordance with Claim 21, wherein the film web is carried by the roller in the first circumferential direction, and wherein the web encounters the first arc before encountering the second arc.

25. (new) The device for cutting and sealing a film web in accordance with Claim 17, wherein the sealing/cutting element is heated by electrical resistance heating caused by a current passed through the element.

26. (new) The device for cutting and sealing a film web in accordance with Claim 17, further comprising:

a second arcuate sealing/cutting element identical to the sealing/cutting element and located in a second circumferential opening in the roller.

27. (new) The device for cutting and sealing a film web in accordance with Claim 26, wherein the roller comprises at least three parts separated by the slots, wherein the separate roller parts are free to rotate independently about the roller axis.

28. (new) The device for cutting and sealing a film web in accordance with Claim 27, wherein the roller parts and the sealing/cutting elements are adjustable in the axial direction along the roller axis.

29. (new) The device for cutting and sealing a film web in accordance with Claim 17, wherein the sealing/cutting element presents an edge to the film web moving over it, and wherein the presented edge is flat.

30. (new) The device for cutting and sealing a film web in accordance with Claim 17, wherein the sealing/cutting element presents an edge to the film web moving over it, and wherein the presented edge is rounded.